

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2193

To amend title 49, United States Code, to permit the use of Federal funds to pay for travel costs of Federal personnel and their pets, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 22, 2023

Mr. BOOKER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, to permit the use of Federal funds to pay for travel costs of Federal personnel and their pets, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Fly Pet Exception for
5 Traveling Swiftly Act” or the “Fly PETS Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FLY AMERICA ACT EXCEPTION.**

7 Section 40118 of title 49, United States Code, is
8 amended by adding at the end the following:

1 “(h) CERTAIN TRANSPORTATION OF DOMESTICATED
2 ANIMALS.—

3 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding sub-
4 sections (a) and (c), an appropriation to any depart-
5 ment, agency, or instrumentality of the United
6 States Government may be used to pay for the
7 transportation of Federal personnel, dependent of
8 the Federal personnel, and in-cabin or accompanying
9 checked baggage or cargo, by a foreign air carrier
10 when—

11 “(A) the transportation is from a place—

12 “(i) outside the United States to a
13 place in the United States;

14 “(ii) in the United States to a place
15 outside the United States; or

16 “(iii) between two places outside the
17 United States; and

18 “(B) no air carrier holding a certificate
19 under section 41102 is willing and able to
20 transport up to three domesticated animals ac-
21 companying such Federal personnel or depend-
22 ent.

23 “(2) LIMITATION.—An amount paid pursuant
24 to paragraph (1) for transportation by a foreign air
25 carrier may not be greater than the amount that

1 would otherwise have been paid had the transpor-
2 tation been on an air carrier holding a certificate
3 under section 41102 had that carrier been willing
4 and able to provide such transportation. If the
5 amount that would otherwise have been paid to such
6 an air carrier is less than the cost of transportation
7 on the applicable foreign air carrier, the Federal
8 personnel shall pay the difference of such amount.

9 “(3) DEFINITION.—In this subsection:

10 “(A) DOMESTICATED ANIMAL.—The term
11 ‘domesticated animal’ means a dog or a cat, or
12 any other animal the Secretary deems appro-
13 priate for reimbursement under this section.

14 “(B) FEDERAL PERSONNEL.—The term
15 ‘Federal personnel’ means any officer or em-
16 ployee of the United States Government, includ-
17 ing any member of the uniformed services (as
18 that term is defined in section 2101 of title 5),
19 the Foreign Service, and any Peace Corp volun-
20 teer.

21 “(C) PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER.—The
22 term ‘Peace Corps volunteer’ means an indi-
23 vidual described in section 5(a) of the Peace
24 Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2504(a)).”.

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